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LANSING – Legislation passed the Senate today that would allow organ donors to place a "heart logo" on the front of their driver's license or identification card indicating donor consent, announced Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac.

Heart logo would indicate organ donor

Currently, licenses or cards issued by the Secretary of State have a special surface on the back that can be written on to allow for the organ donor consent. Senate Bill 301, sponsored by Gilbert, would allow the addition of the logo on the front to make the consent more noticeable in the event of emergency. It also requires the Secretary of State to create an organ donor registry. Organ donor advocacy groups like Gift of Life would have electronic access to this database as well.

"Recognizing a person's intent to donate their organs is important during an emergency and the back of a license is often overlooked," Gilbert said. "Placing a logo on the front of the card will allow emergency personnel to identify the intent to donate more quickly."

Currently 41 other states have a similar identifier on the front of their cards or licenses, with 24 using a heart logo.

The legislation has the support of the organ donor community and the Secretary of State.

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Comments from Sen. Gilbert on the heart logo are available for download on the Senate Majority Audiowire at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop.